

Grantham Cottage

Grantham Cottage was built in the mid-1890s and the Hon Alexander Grantham Yorke is recorded as living there afterwards. He mostly lived in London but his wife died in 1896 so he may have built Grantham Cottage to be near the rest of his family in Hamble, their main residence being Sydney Lodge, or as a country residence.

It was located overlooking Southampton Water, below where Beech Close is today. The main house had Grantham Cottage Lodge behind it to accommodate its staff and servants. In front of it, on the beach, was a boat house. Lilac Cottage was at the entrance to Grantham Cottage's drive from Coach Road as a gate house to accommodate more of its staff.



Grantham Cottage viewed from the beach, c.1923.

Captain John Manners Yorke, 7th Earl of Hardwicke, who lived at Sydney Lodge died in 1909 and his wife, Edith, Dowager Countess of Hardwicke, moved to Grantham Cottage after his death.

By the 1920s the Westley family lived at Grantham Cottage but it is known that Joseph Yorke lived there for two years.

In the 1930s alterations and additions, including a billiard room, were made and in 1936 it was put up for sale by Surgeon-Commander Beattie. It was described as having 3 excellent reception rooms (one 30ft long), 7 bedrooms, 3 well fitted baths and located in 2.5 acres of land including timbered grounds and a boat house.

Mr & Mrs Kingsley, who made their money at a tea plantation in India, bought it and at the start of the Second World War they moved to America and left their staff to look after the property. Syd Williams was the butler,

who lived with his family in Sydney Cottage Lodge and Hillman, the chauffeur, lived in Lilac Cottage.

Grantham Cottage was destroyed by a German parachute mine in April 1941. There was not much of the main house left afterwards, except the wine cellar. The wine was given to their butler and one of his friends by Mr & Mrs Kingsley who were still abroad.

Today Hamble Right of Way 506 follows the route of the path that went through Grantham Cottage's grounds to its boat house.

GRANTHAM COTTAGE, HAMBLE
WITH GOOD VIEWS DIRECTLY OVER SOUTHAMPTON WATER.
A CHARMING HOUSE OF QUEEN ANNE STYLE

In first class condition throughout, 7 bedrooms, 3 well fitted baths and 4 excellent reception rooms (one 30ft. long).

Modern Services.
Well timbered grounds with
PRIVATE BOATHOUSE.

FOR SALE WITH 2½ ACRES.



Or to Let Furnished or Unfurnished, as owner going abroad.
Agents, WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

Advertisement for sale, October 1936.